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PATENT

B1
sub
C1

1. (Once amended) A granular or powdered detergent composition having reduced di-salt formation, comprising:

first particles comprising α -sulfofatty acid ester; and
second particles comprising additional detergent components that cause more than a minor amount of additional di-salt formation, the second particles having a free moisture content of less than about 6 weight percent;
the first particles post-added to the second particles, whereby the first and second particles are commingled, but remain physically distinct.

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C3

5. (Once amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the second particles further comprise a builder, a nonionic surfactant, a secondary anionic surfactant, a polymer dispersant, an oxidizing agent, a biocidal agent, a foam regulator, a binder, an anticaking agent, an activator, a catalyst, a thickener, a stabilizer, a fragrance, a soil suspending agent, a soil release agent, a filler, a brightener, a UV protectant, an enzyme, or a mixture thereof.

B3

7. (Once amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the free moisture content of the second particles is between about 1 to about 3 weight percent.

9. (Twice amended) A granular or powdered α -sulfofatty acid ester detergent composition, comprising:

detergent particles comprising at least one detergent component that causes more than a minor amount of additional di-salt formation; and
 α -sulfofatty acid ester particles which are post-added to the detergent particles;

B4
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C4

the α -sulfofatty acid particles ester post-added to the detergent particles, whereby the α -sulfofatty acid ester particles and detergent particles are commingled, but remain physically distinct in the detergent composition, and whereby additional di-salt formation is reduced.

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10. (Once amended) The composition of claim 9, wherein the α -sulf fatty acid ester particles are a powder.

13. (Once amended) The composition of claim 9, wherein the detergent particles further comprise a builder, a nonionic surfactant, a secondary anionic surfactant, a polymer dispersant, an oxidizing agent, a biocidal agent, a foam regulator, a binder, an anticaking agent, an activator, a catalyst, a thickener, a stabilizer, a fragrance, a soil suspending agent, a filler, a brightener, a UV protectant, an enzyme, or a mixture thereof.

14. (Once amended) The composition of claim 9, further comprising an adjuvant particles.

15. (Once amended) The composition of claim 14, wherein the adjuvant particles comprise an enzyme, a fragrance or an oxidizing agent.

B5
16. (Once amended) A granular or powdered α -sulf fatty acid ester detergent prepared by:
providing at least one detergent component that causes more than a minor amount of additional di-salt formation;
forming the at least one detergent component by granulating, spray drying or agglomerating into detergent particles; and
post-adding a powdered or agglomerated α -sulf fatty acid ester to the detergent portion so that the α -sulf fatty acid ester and detergent particles are commingled, but remain physically distinct; whereby the amount of the di-salt formation is reduced.

17. (Twice amended) The composition of claim 16, wherein the α -sulf fatty acid ester is free of components that cause more than a minor amount of additional di-salt formation.

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18. (Once Amended) The composition of claim 16, further prepared by:
reducing the free moisture content of the detergent particles to between
about 1 to about 6 weight percent.

19. (Once Amended) The composition of claim 16, wherein the
detergent particles are a powder, pellets, beads, or granules.
